



**Mina' Bente OchoNa Liheslaturan Guahan**  
***TWENTY-EIGHTH GUAM LEGISLATURE***

**Senator Lou A. Leon Guerrero**

April 19, 2005

The Honorable Richard Pombo  
Chairman, Committee on Resources  
United States House of Representatives  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.R. 1595, relative to the implementation of the recommendation of the Guam War Claims Review Commission.

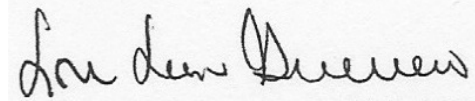
While I support the long awaited and much needed recognition of the Chamorros who suffered the atrocities under the hands of the Imperial Japanese Government during World War II, I cannot support limiting the awarding of war reparation only to those who were alive in 1990. Placing a cutoff date creates disparity among the victims of war as all of them, whether they were dead or alive in year 1990, were terribly tormented, both physically and mentally during World War II—a painful scar that remained with them permanently. To provide for fair and equitable compensation for all Guam war victims, I respectfully request that the Committee on Resources strike-through Section 4(5)(B)(ii) of H.R. 1595.

Further, Guam would be well-served if the Committee members travel to Guam to hold a public hearing on-island on H.R. 1595. This would ensure that as many as possible of Guam's elders who were war victims during the Japanese occupation on Guam, or their survivors, are heard. I strongly urge the Committee to grant the people of Guam an opportunity to directly testify before Congress as to their desires relative to H.R. 1595, particularly to the inclusion of all individuals who suffered personal injury, including rape and malnutrition; forced labor; forced march; and internment, including hiding to avoid capture, during World War II.

I would also like to acknowledge Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate, in her efforts to seek war claims for the people of Guam and for her diligence in quickly moving this issue forward.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity, and I hope that my testimony will be greatly taken into consideration. *Si Yu'os ma'ase'.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lou Leon Guerrero", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Lou Leon Guerrero, RN, MPH  
Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature